Appl. No.:　09/675,529
Amdt. dated August 25, 2003
Reply to Office action of May 23, 2003

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 18, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The ASM 150 provides various capabilities such as server management and interrupt control functions. At least one suitable ASM is described by one or more of the following U.S. patents all of which are incorporated herein by reference: U.S. Patent Nos. 5,390,324, 5,596,711 and 5,956,475. Additionally, ASM 150 provides an interface to NVRAM 154 to permit data to be written to and read from NVRAM 154. The ASM 150 also can receive a serial stream of data on its serial data ("SER DATA") input pin provided from one of the serial shift registers 162 at 171, as shown. Each shift register 162 preferably comprises an 8-bit shift register such as an LS165 which is available from various manufacturers. Each shift register can be loaded in parallel via input pins 166 upon the assertion of the serial load ("SI_LD") control signal from ASM 150. Each of the input pins 166 can be connected, for example, to any input/output device for which it is desirable to read status information.

Please replace the Abstract with the following rewritten Abstract:

ABSTRACT

A computer system having central processing unit, a ROM, and an NVRAM, and other common computer components. A table of information is stored in the ROM. The information can relates to configuration data for boards installed in the computer or other types of information. Preferably, eachEach entry in the ROM table includes a board identifier and corresponding text describing the board and/or board configuration data for the board. An extension table is stored in the NVRAM which provides storage capacity for the same type of information in the ROM-based table. The NVRAM-based extension table preferably also includes storage for board identifiers and corresponding configuration information. When running a setup utility program, the A utility preferably first checks the ROM-based board table to determine whether a